

# THE WANDERER

BY LECHUGA JAM®

#4

APRIL 2025

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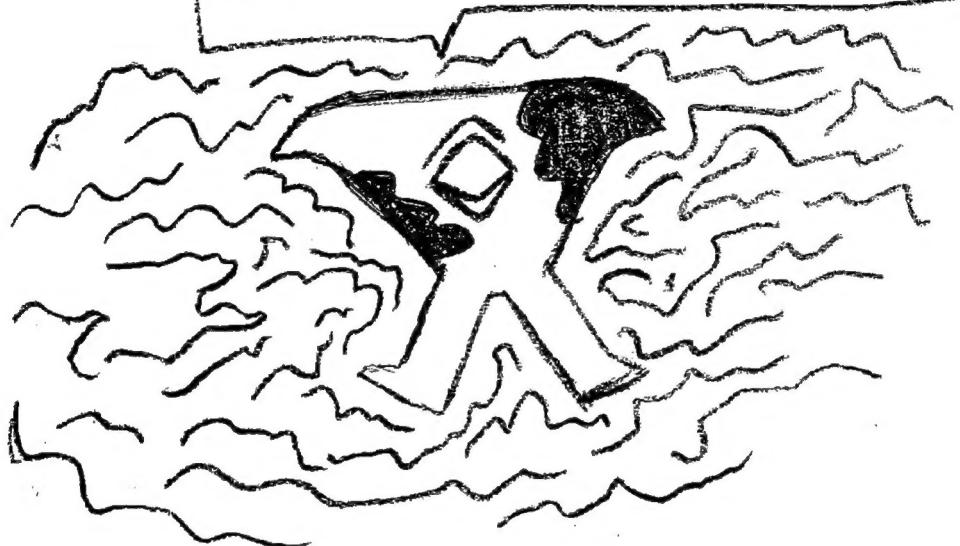
26. BOOKS I REALLY LIKE

# HE CHANDERERS!

GOOD TO SEE YOU ALL AGAIN, NOW  
WITH A HAND WRITTEN  
INTRO NOTE! ~~WOAH~~ SURE DOES  
MAKE YOU WONDER WHY I WASN'T DOING  
THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE... OH WELL.

I FEEL WORN OUT, HONESTLY. LIKE  
A SOAKED TOWEL. LIKE A HAM SANDWICH  
THAT'S BEEN SQUISHED TO A PULP IN THE  
BOTTOM OF A BACKPACK. I THINK A  
NICE BIT OF SLEEP WOULD BE GOOD—  
AS A MATTER OF FACT, I GOT A NICE  
MUG OF SLEEPYTIME TEA TO MY RIGHT  
AS I WRITE THIS! MY HANDWRITING  
GETS SLOPPY WHEN I'M TIRED. BUT I  
DID MY BEST. WHEN I'M SO WORN OUT  
AND TIRED, I THINK OF THAT ELO SONG,  
"HOLD ON TIGHT (TO YOUR DREAM)!" I LIKE  
THAT. I'LL ALWAYS HOLD ON TIGHT TO MY  
DREAM. WANNA KNOW WHY? CUZ YOU ARE  
MY DREAM. I'LL ALWAYS HOLD ON TIGHT  
FOR YOU. ENJOY THIS ISSUE! ONTO THE ZINES!

IF MUSIC WAS WATER,  
I'D BE A SWAMP CREATURE.



LESTEN! ▶

# MOSH PITS

AN UNOFFICIAL, UNAUTHORIZED, UN-ASKED-FOR DICTIONARY BY LECHUGA JAM



SO AS YOU MIGHT KNOW, I LOVE MOSHING. I LOVE ALL KINDS OF MOSH PITS. AT SOME POINT, THOUGH, I GOT TIRED OF ALWAYS SAYING "THAT PIT WAS CRAZY," SO I CAME UP WITH SOME FUN NAMES FOR PITS OF ALL KINDS. ENJOY!

**DISCLAIMER:** THIS IS ALL JUST FOR FUN!  
NONE OF THIS MATTERS. LABELING THINGS CAN BE FUN.  
YOU DON'T HAVE TO AGREE WITH ANY OF THESE, THIS IS  
JUST THE WAY I LIKE SEEING THINGS. DO WHAT YOU WILL.

## BOW CROWDEDNESS

### BALLET

### PIT

LOW INTENSITY



SEEN OFTEN AT THE START OF SHOWS. 3-5 PEOPLE SPIN AROUND, BARELY TOUCHING, MOVING SLOW AND NOT VERY JUMPY.

### BILLY GOAT

### PIT

MEDIUM INTENSITY



PEOPLE ARE BOUNCING AND STARTING TO HIT EACH OTHER, BUT BECAUSE THERE'S ONLY 3-5 OTHER PEOPLE THEY JUST RAM INTO THE SAME FOLKS OVER AND OVER,

### RICOCHET

### PIT

HIGH INTENSITY



PEOPLE ARE MOVING FAST NOW. THEY ZOOM ACROSS THE PIT, CRASHING INTO THE PEOPLE ON THE EDGE AND REBOUNDING OFF OF THEM LIKE FLYING BULLETS.

# MEDIUM CROWDEDNESS

## SARDINE

### PIT

LOW INTENSITY



THE PIT FLOWS AND MOVES AND PEOPLE DANCE AND FLOW AROUND ONE ANOTHER LIKE A SCHOOL OF SARDINES.

## POPCORN

### PIT

MEDIUM INTENSITY



NOW IT GETS JUMPY AND PEOPLE BEGIN TO THROW DOWN. STILL FRIENDLY, BUT FOLKS GET KNOCKED AROUND. VERY COMMON PIT.

## BATTLE

### PIT

HIGH INTENSITY



SCARY, FAST-MOVING BLOODBATH OF A PIT WHERE YOU WONDER IF YOU'RE GONNA MAKE IT OUT ALIVE. EVERYONE IS THROWING THEMSELVES FULL-FORCE AT EACH OTHER.

# HIGH CROWDEDNESS

## SEAWEED

### PIT

LOW INTENSITY

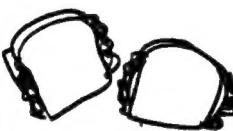


EVERYONE SWAYS INTO ONE ANOTHER, ROOTED AND GENTLE, AS THOUGH THE MUSIC IS THE CURRENT OF THE OCEAN.

## SANDWICH

### PIT

MEDIUM INTENSITY



A VERY SQUISHED UP PIT WHERE PEOPLE TRY TO JUMP AROUND AND MOVE BUT END UP SMUSHED BETWEEN THE SAME FEW THE WHOLE NIGHT. DELICIOUS!

## GRIDLOCK

### PIT

HIGH INTENSITY



A VERY RARE PIT. FOUND ONLY IN TIGHT BASEMENTS, HERE'S A PIT OF SUPERCHARGED PEOPLE WHO CANNOT MOVE NO MATTER HOW HARD THEY TRY. PERSONALLY, I'VE ONLY SEEN THIS PIT AT A MODERN FACES SHOW.

# SOMEWHERE IN A BASEMENT



I SAT DOWN WITH THE CARETAKERS OF A HOUSE VENUE, DEARLY LOVED AMONG OUR COMMUNITY. HERE'S A GLIMPSE INTO THEIR WORK HERE- THE SKULLMANOR!

Mo: Hello, readers of The Wanderer! We are sitting with the folks who take care of the Skull Manor, a beloved house venue in Boston! Let's just jump right in.

### **"Did you ever imagine you would be doing this? What made you want to do this?"**

KC: I never thought I would be doing this in this kind of capacity, but I feel like my life has been pushing me in this direction for a long time. And I feel like, if anything, I didn't know I would be here, but I know this is where I'm supposed to be now.

PM: Yeah, I feel like I didn't expect it for myself but it seems like a very natural outgrowth of everything that I'm doing. You've got rehearsal space, show space, but also just a pool of talent and actual instruments and resources and shit, where you can be like, "can I borrow a bass amp?" And there's a bass amp. I never expected to be doing it at this point in my life, but I know I'm exactly where I need to be. It was a very serendipitous thing that brought me to the house. It was very fast, like, "you wanna live here?" Like, yeah, actually! That's awesome!

HF: I feel like if I told past me that this kinda happened, I feel like I would probably have been surprised, but then I'd think about it and say, "That makes sense." Like I feel like the pieces would fit together and bring me to this place.

AB: This is my second house show venue that I've lived at, and that was very unexpected in every possible way—that we did it, that it worked, that we kept doing it. But it did make this feel very very normal. And it's fantastic, I love living here.

CL: I feel lucky every single day that I'm here. Specifically the people, they're the best in the world. When the offer to first join the house came on my table, I was very nervous. And it took KC talking me down in an iHop to get me to sign on. But I think what really got me, like that nurse joy song: "If it sparks joy, then you should nurse it." Like, the people, the community, and what we're trying to do with this house and with Boston music in general, it's something that all of us here are here for. Because we do wanna nurse it, and we wanna help it grow, and I feel lucky every single day that I'm here.

EB: I would agree with what the others have said. In the moment, it was literally just an Instagram story that I swiped up on, and said "hey I'm down!" But I would agree that there were a lot of things that happened in my journey to make me the kind of person who would take that leap. So I would agree with what the others said, that I didn't see myself doing it but it makes a lot of sense in my trajectory.

NZ: I also agree with pretty much everybody. When I came to the east coast for the first time, my shadow took me to a house show and that was what made me want to come to this side of the country. It was the first time I felt like I had found my people, and I said "I don't care how, I wanna be a part of that." And very randomly stumbled into this place. And I've been here for 4 years now.

**"In as much or as little detail as you want to share, could you go into the history of this place?"**

PM: We know a little about the beginning, and a little about where it ended up recently to here. It's a building that's been around for a while, having music in it.

EB: Let's say it's historical.

PM: We've heard that music has been happening in the house in some form for a very long time. And there was a period where the vibes were very, very bad. And some restless spirits built up, but in the meantime we've appeased the spirits and the house is happy, we're happy, and the people who come through seem to love it. So, hooray for that.

CL: We're all still trying to work together the oral history. And we've had a lot of fun connecting with previous residents and everyone who's lived here. Whenever we have someone who's lived here come through, we ask them like 50 questions, like, "When was the stage built?" And we're still trying to get our answers and it's been a fun history for all of us to share, because we all know that we're a part of it. And what we do and what we built here contributes to that history. And we also know that we stand on the shoulders of giants. Like, there are a lot of people who did a lot of brave things to make this space possible and we try our best to honor that legacy.

EB: Respect to anyone who starts a house venue. That's crazy. Major respect to those people. I just came in and inherited it, but the people who put

their ass on the line and started one is crazy.

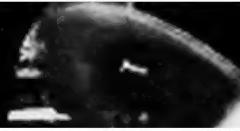
KC: It really feels like an inheritance. I feel a duty to respect the spirit of this home and continue giving to the community in that way. It's like, we have a literal platform. Like, a LITERAL platform.

PM: I mean, it's crazy to move into a house venue where there's a stage and a full PA with monitors already.

KC: We're so lucky.

PM: We were able to just walk in and be like, "Okay! Let's do it!"

NZ: And a community already built in, too. I'd say it's always been and hopefully always will be something bigger than just living in this house. And as far as the history, we just hope to keep it going.



## **What have been some of the best parts and highlights about running the venue?**

PM: All the different people who come through. I'm just fascinated by who comes out of the woodwork for each show. Sometimes it'll be really really packed and other times it's just a lot of people we know turn up, and it's almost like a nice little house party, but we try to make sure it's house show versus house party. And I think that's part of what helps us in the long run.

HF: You get to meet people and have all these interesting conversations with people that you might've not talked to much or even crossed paths with much if they hadn't come to this house. So it's really interesting, the kind of people you meet, the kind of conversations you have, and then maybe you'll see them somewhere else. It really is the start of connections.

EB: Or it's the people from the bands from different parts of the country. They have a whole different experience growing up. And because we have institutions here that are just so international, like you meet people from all over. This scene is so global. People come through Boston like crazy, musicians and artists, and those people come to house shows and you can meet them. And it's pretty cool to be facilitating that.

CL: I think to that point too, I first started coming to Skull Manor shows when I was 19 in college, drinking too much that I shouldn't have, and figuring out a way to get home drunk. I think to be a young kid in Boston, to be on your own for the first time, and connecting with our community and music, that's a different kind of freedom. I feel such a

sense of privilege to be able to create a safe space so that kids who are coming from sheltered New Jersey, or in school at the same time, or realizing they don't wanna be an accountant... I think when people come to Skull Manor shows, it's a lot of times about themselves and what they wanna get out of them, and how they see themselves—like, "Oh yeah, I'm a cool kid who comes to shows." We get to help people do that safely. And that's a highlight for sure, because it was so transformative for me.

KC: That's so beautiful. I love that.

PM: I like being able to give people a space to unsquare.

Mo: Unsquare...

PM: I think that's one of the best things that we could be doing right now. Especially because some people have come in with some takes that feel naive at this point, relative to being an insider. As someone living in the venue, the whole "No one's talking about the house show scene! We should write an article about the house show scene! Why is no one talking about this?" It happens all the time. But that kind of energy comes a lot from the tourists, you could say, who come through the city to get a masters degree or something... I dunno. Finding how to harness that energy, show them what we're about, open their minds a little bit.

KC: It's so wonderful to be able to facilitate a bill and people coming together and having this common experience that's such a wonderful time... it's truly an honor to be able to create a space that's like magic for a night.



NZ: It really feels like you're part of something bigger than yourself. And being a support system for other people is a feeling that you can't get anywhere else besides living in a house venue.

PM: And sometimes it brings together people who would've normally sat at home alone. And this is happening at a time where, you know, a constitutional crisis is underway. So that's pretty stressful as an outward meaning thing. So it's nice to create a bubble where people know they can show up here and nobody's going to fuck with them. That's really important. There aren't a lot of places where you can just walk in and feel like, "I know I'm cool."

EB: I love being able to facilitate a place where people's voices can be heard. Like even if you wanted to just cover yourself in baby oil and play with contact mics on stage.

KC: I'm looking for that right now. If you do this, give us a call!

Mo: I feel like we know at least 10 people who would do that if we asked them.

NZ: Anything explicitly authentic and the people who are completely supportive of that, you don't really see that anywhere else besides the house show scene.

PM: Especially bamboozling the audience. Making people go, "What the hell did I just see?" But in a way where you're pleased about it. Like, "Oh my god, what did I just see? I wanna do something like that!" That's what I most like.

EB: That's the lifeblood right there.

TO BE  
CONTINUED...

# NEW MUSIC! ▽



MARCY THE BAPTIST-  
#ONLYANEMICCATIKNOW

A CHARMINGLY ECLECTIC EP THAT USES ALL SORTS OF DISTORTED, NOSTALGIC SOUNDS TO SUPPORT ITS PRODUCTION. SUPER IMPRESSED BY ALL THE LAYERS OF SOUNDS GOING ON IN THIS BLOGWAVE-Y RECORD. BUT WITH ALL ITS SATURATION, THE SONGS TAKE CARE TO INTERTWINER SOME MORE ACOUSTIC MOMENTS TOO. VERY COOL LISTEN, CHECK IT OUT! @LARTLEWAHT

MIKE SEMPERT-  
TRAGIC MASCULINITY

THE 11TH STUDIO RELEASE OF SINGER-SONGWRITER MIKE SEMPERT TAKES YOU ON A HEARTFELT LYRICAL JOURNEY, SPEAKING TO A LOT OF THE DESPAIR THAT'S BECOME A LITTLE TOO COMMON AMONG PEOPLE. WITH ALL SORTS OF FUN RHYTHMS AND COOL SOUND DESIGN CHOICES, THIS ALBUM REALLY ENCAPSULATES THAT FEELING OF KNOWING THAT WE'LL STILL BE DANCING EVEN WHEN SHIT HITS THE FAN.

@MIKE\_SEMPERT



HAVE YOU GOT MUSIC COMING OUT IN MAY? SUBMIT IT TO THE WANDERER FOR IT TO BE FEATURED HERE! ▽



**ANTI-CONSUMERISM IS MORE FRINGE  
THAN FACISM  
IT'S HARD TO START A MOVEMENT  
WITH NO PRODUCT TIE-INS ATTACHED  
TO IT**

**LANDLORD'S POEM**

My tenants pitch tents  
All masochists  
Getting off  
The premises  
Wrapped in nylon  
And latex  
And bounced checks  
On their way to public transit  
Now when will they eat?  
When I'm back on my feet  
When my toilet seat heats  
And I own the place they sleep next

**DEAFFEATIST POEM**

Don't be defeatist  
You sound like a deadbeats fetus  
Five weeks  
First heartbeat  
Mom and Dad say we're so excited for you to meet us  
We love to drink wine  
Go on roller coasters  
And do belly flops in the swimming pool  
Other than that  
Most of our time is taken up  
Flunking out of high school

**PROFIT POEM**

I'm a non prophet  
Wrong about everything  
And never making money off it  
Makes no sense  
Not a penny more or less left for nonsense  
I'd get you off my back if I could find where  
My last buck went

**EVERY BODY OF WATER  
BLEACHED OCEANS R  
PEOPLE SWARM TO M  
INSTEAD OF SCRAPP**

## PEN POEM

The pen is mightier than the sword I think  
I wouldn't risk that though  
All these cocks I know write in disappearing ink  
Roost in their drinks  
Dare a neighbor to diss their blow or hens mink  
Or go toe to toe in the clink  
When they're caught  
The pen is all they've got  
And in the pen, while it depends,  
Some find eachother hot

## RAT POEM

Rat trap snaps closed back on the house cats nose  
Squint eyes don't see the mouse goes  
In the bleached mint tin  
Reaches out for a clothespin  
And drives home on cheese wheels  
Dragging a rolled up old  
Cat skin

...

Ratnosed tits  
Barbs pierce flesh  
Under duress undressed  
No lace or mesh  
Under her dress  
Where there's no light lie  
Bumps and bites  
Red truth on pale white lies

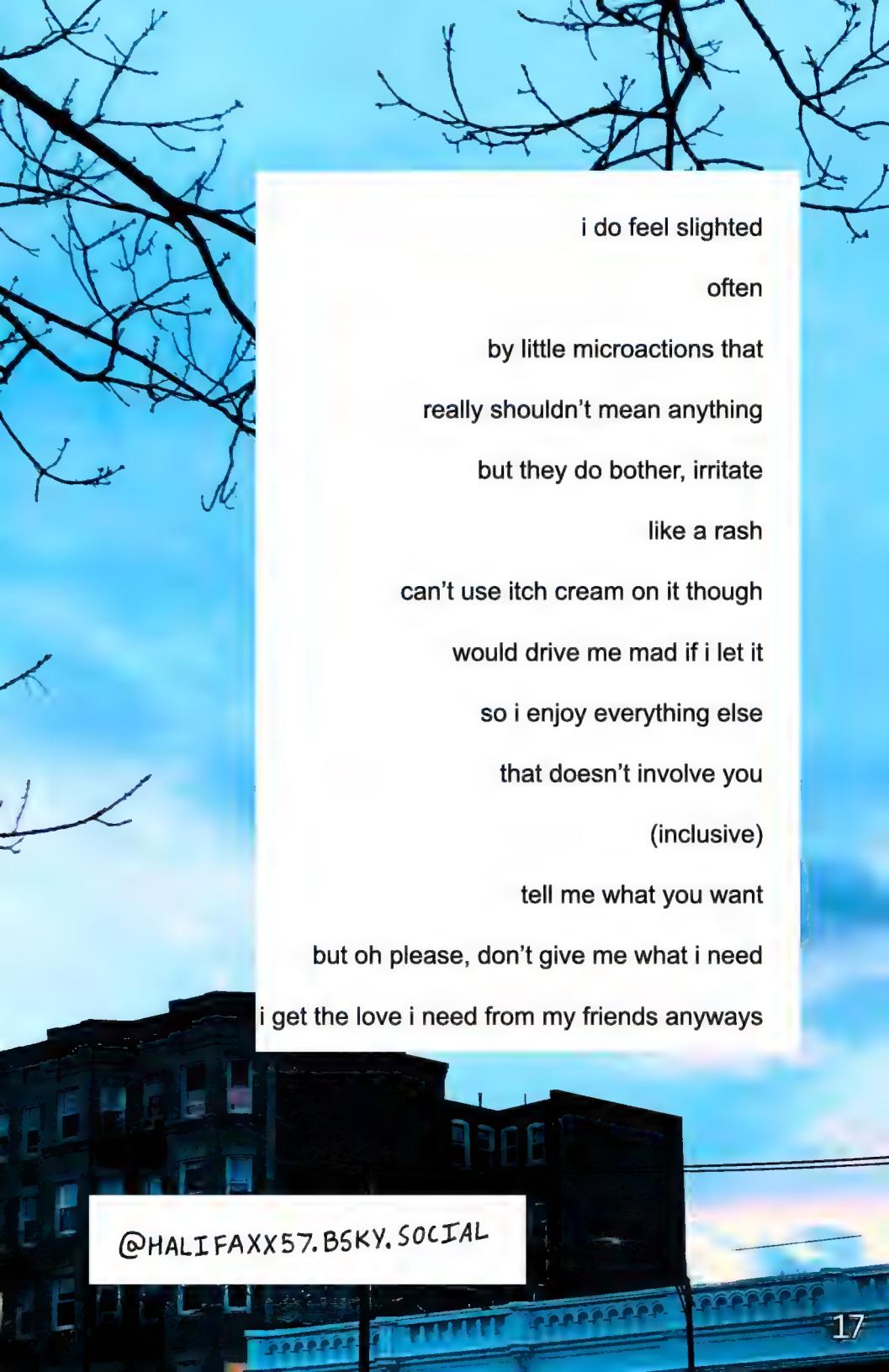
TER HAS BEEN POISONED  
RISE FOR THE LAST RINSE  
AKE THEIR MARK  
PING CARS TO BUILD AN ARK

POETRY BY RUBBER



"BAD POETRY (AND THIS IS COMING  
FROM ME)" BY HALIFAX

let bygones be bygones  
gone with the wind  
the wind that carries your words  
carried me away  
tucked away somewhere secret  
secretly dropping clues  
you clued me in  
into your life  
a life of intricately woven thread  
threads that cross  
crosswired & switched  
switched off  
i'm off the train now  
now it's all gone



i do feel slighted  
often  
by little microactions that  
really shouldn't mean anything  
but they do bother, irritate  
like a rash  
can't use itch cream on it though  
would drive me mad if i let it  
so i enjoy everything else  
that doesn't involve you  
(inclusive)  
tell me what you want  
but oh please, don't give me what i need  
i get the love i need from my friends anyways

@HALIFAXX57.BSKY.SOCIAL

# Minibwebs #4

BY KID  
THE WEB!

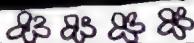
NAME: Kid (the) Web

LEVEL: 21

SPECIES: mutt

CLASS: Bard

## STATS



STRENGTH



SPEED:



WISDOM:



CHARISMA:



STABILITY:



### Skills:

music, making  
breakfast,  
adventuring



Hat

+10 fashionista

glasses

+5 vision

-5 durability

outfit

+10 whimsy

+20 confidence

+5 charisma

### Fears:

- big spider
- the mouths of whales

watch

+15 preparedness



Mjart

+5 gender

### Loves:

- bass guitar
- whales



sack 5+

sandals 5

+5 dad

+1 comfy

-10 speed



SELF-PORTRAIT  
BY ANONYMOUS



"THE MANY FACES OF MANY CATS"  
BY KAMARIS DESROCHES  
@KAMIQD\_

# WHAT THE DOG DOIN'?



Fig. 1: Kickin' It



Fig. 2: Bumper Cars



Fig. 3: Headbanging



Fig. 4: Defense!  
at the pit edge



Fig. 5: Someone  
Started Doing Whatever  
This Is and We  
All Joined In



Fig. 6: Can Someone  
Lend a Hand?



JACK LYELL  
@JACKOF63TRADES

*The Stranger*

I was admittedly / quite impressed  
with the stranger's will-to-death.

He had fashioned a document / detailing his crimes:

"There is a hair at the back of my throat."  
"When I speak, I feel their eyes upon me."  
"Nobody is my mother."  
"I am walking in shadow beside the light."  
"As the servant of nightmare."  
"Intimate, I grow weak, inside her."

Strange pistol strode beside him.  
He lay on a bed of starlight —  
no dreams arrived,  
so he stayed awake, even in sleep,  
smoking, his hand above the flame.

"Bodies arrive, as if given," he said, fashioning himself another drink.  
My liquor was stocked, as always. He sifted through notes  
and ordered a goose step mind shock / to run down the insects.

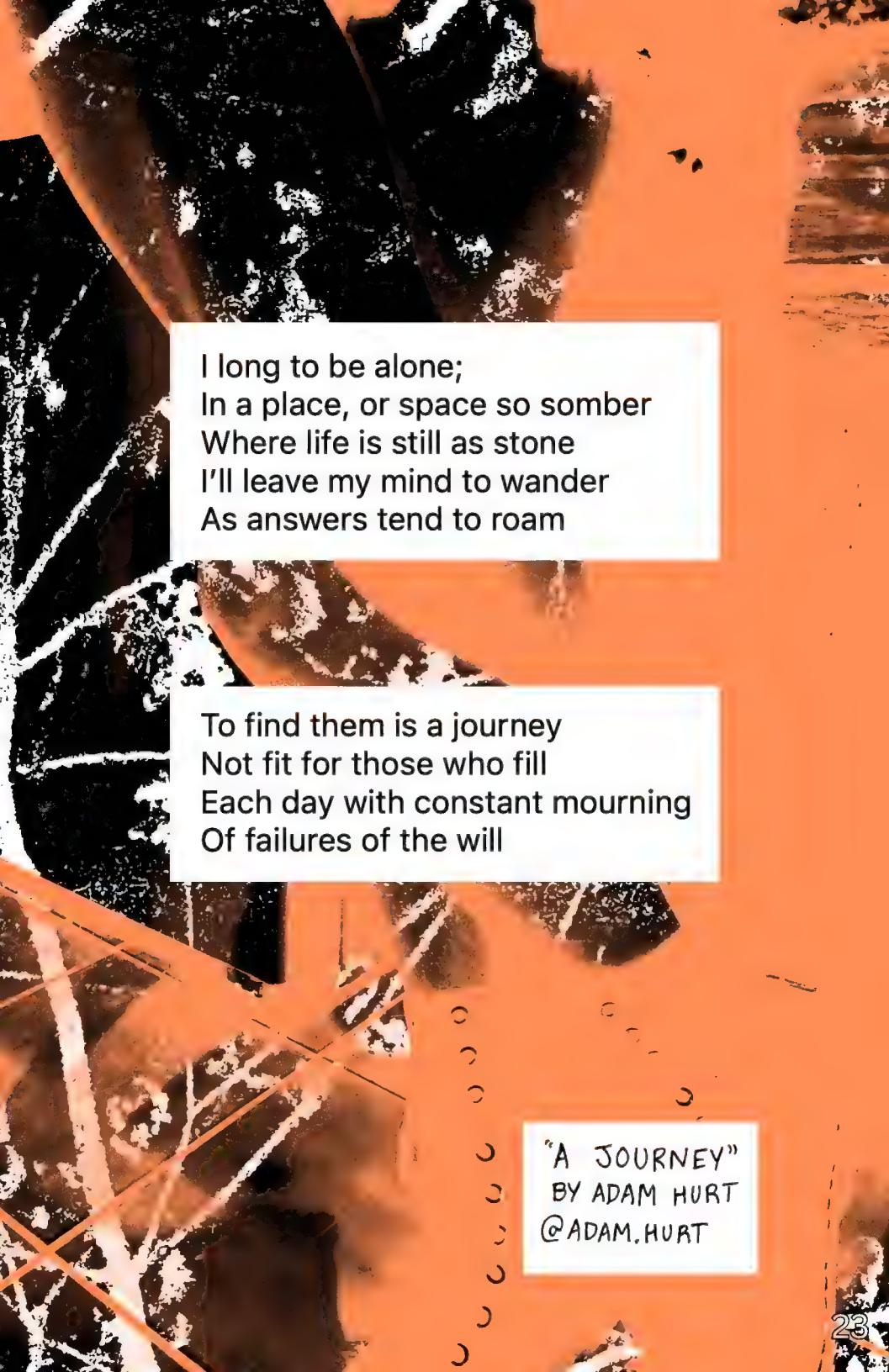
"I am not your brother, your brother is a dead signal,  
I am not your mother, your mother's mother  
was killed before conception.  
I am not another."  
but a frog crept up the stranger's throat to silence.

I lived alone. The way was clear for  
his birth. I let him molt in my spare room —

in a lecture, the stranger once remarked:

"Samsa had wings / and never once knew.  
Your skull has wings too / if you speak to it, soft."

MASON GRANOFSKY

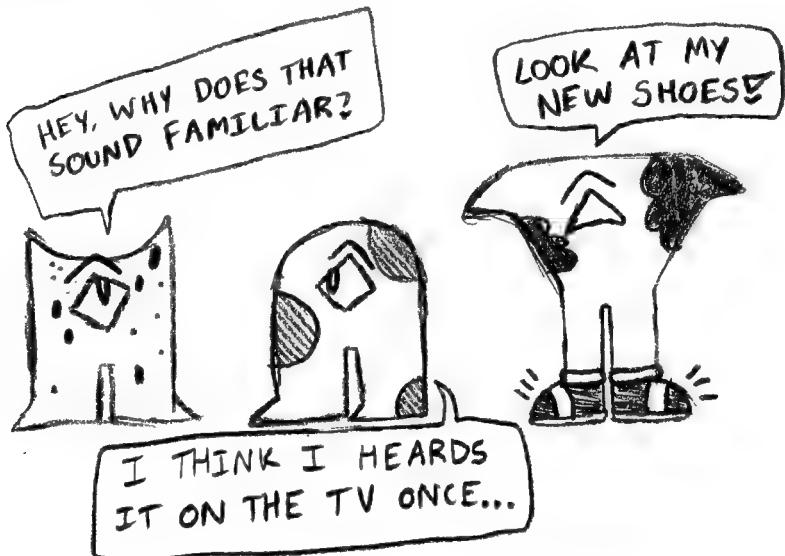


I long to be alone;  
In a place, or space so somber  
Where life is still as stone  
I'll leave my mind to wander  
As answers tend to roam

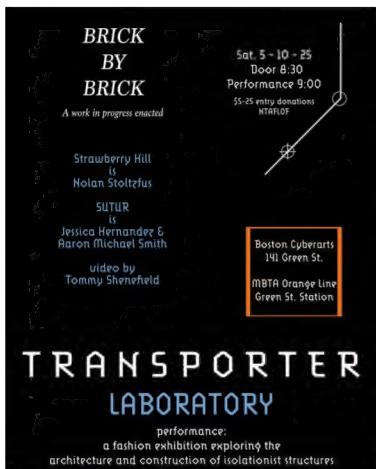
To find them is a journey  
Not fit for those who fill  
Each day with constant mourning  
Of failures of the will

"A JOURNEY"  
BY ADAM HURT  
@ADAM.HURT

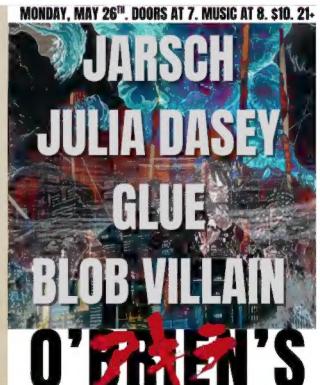
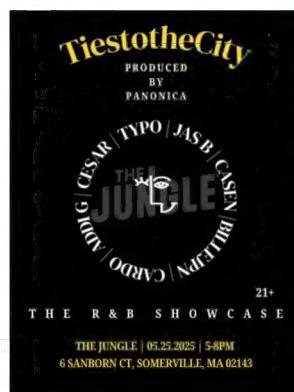
# LEVE AND LEARNA!



## SHOW POSTERS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY...

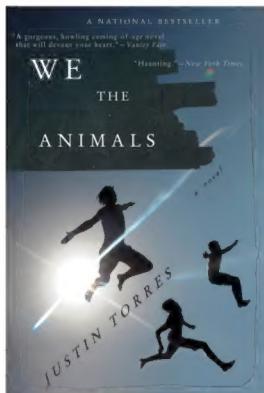


A LIST OF HAPPENINGS FROM THE PELVIC FLOOR! KEEP YOUR EYES PEELED!



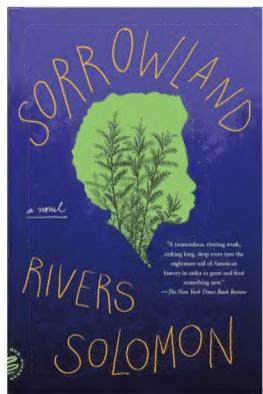
## BOOKS I REALLY LIKE

CAN YOU TELL I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO TALK ABOUT HERE? DIDN'T  
WANT TO LEAVE Y'ALL WITH NOTHING, THOUGH, SO HERE'S SOME BOOKS THAT ARE  
NEAR AND DEAR TO MY HEART THAT I THINK YOU SHOULD READ IF YOU WANNA KNOW A  
LITTLE MORE ABOUT ME.



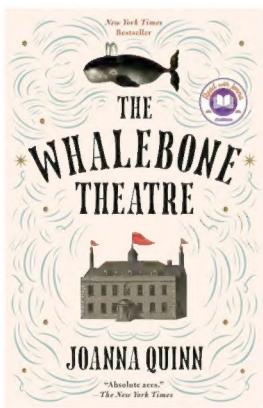
# WE THE ANIMALS BY JUSTIN TORRES

GOD THIS BOOK FUCKED ME UP WHEN I FIRST READ IT. IF YOU LIKE VIGNETTE-STYLE COMING-OF-AGE STORIES WHERE EVERY DESCRIPTION IS SO GROTESQUE AND RAW AND PALPABLE, THIS ONE'S FOR YOU. THEY MADE A MOVIE OUT OF THIS AT SOME POINT. I THINK THE BOOK IS WAY BETTER AND ENDS WAY SADDER.



# SORROWLAND BY RIVERS SOLOMON

SUPER ENTHRALLING READ- SCI-FI IN ITS ELEMENTS, BUT GROUNDED IN BLACK AMERICAN HISTORY AND REALITY, MAKING FOR A THRILLING STORY THAT HAS YOU CHEERING FOR THE MAIN CHARACTER VERN THE WHOLE WAY THROUGH. YOU'RE NOT GONNA WANT TO PUT THIS ONE DOWN.



## THE WHALEBONE THEATRE BY JOANNA QUINN

A HIGHLY IMAGINATIVE STORY THAT NAVIGATES THE LIVES OF THREE BRITISH SIBLINGS FROM THE 1920S TO THE 1940S. YOU WATCH THEM PUT ON PLAYS AS CHILDREN, AND FIGHT IN THE WAR AS ADULTS, AND THE ATTENTION TO DETAIL MAKES YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH THE CAST OF CHARACTERS. CRISTABEL, THE OLDEST OF THE THREE, RESONATES SO DEEPLY WITH ME

A SHORT AND SWEET EDITION. I TOLD Y'ALL  
I WAS TIRED. BUT EVEN WHEN I'M TIRED, I  
LOVE YOU. THANK YOU FOR BEING PATIENT  
WITH ME. I'LL SEE YOU NEXT MONTH.

# THE WANDERER

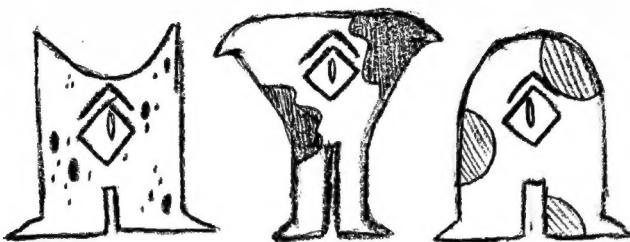
BY LECHUGA JAM!

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY  
MO CORREA

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IF YOU WANNA HELP COVER PRINTING COSTS SO THE ZINE  
CAN REMAIN ACCESSIBLE TO AS MANY AS POSSIBLE, CONSIDER  
SENDING A DOLLAR TO @LECHUGAJAM ON VENMO AND CASHAPP.

ALL THE LINKS!





LEAD, FOLLOW, WANDER  
FOLLOW, WANDER, LEAD  
WE ARE THE THREE WHO FIT THE CYCLE  
THREE LIKE A TRIANGLE, THREE IS MAGIC  
LEAD THE WAY YOU WANDERED DOWN  
FOLLOW, LEARN TO LEAD THE WAY  
WANDER, ONCE YOU'VE HAD ENOUGH  
THE CYCLE IS THREE, LIKE WE  
WE WHO ARE MAGIC AS ALL THREE  
THE THREE WHO LEAD, FOLLOW, WANDER.